

REMARKS AND RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

The Examiner has required restriction of the invention under 35 U.S.C. 121 to one of the following groups:

- Group I:** Claims 1-39 and 67-68, drawn to a siRNA compound targeted to an mRNA sequence, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.
- Group II:** Claims 40-63, drawn to a method of activating target-specific RNA interference in a cell or organism and a method of treating a disease or disorder by administration of a siRNA, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- Group III:** Claim 64, drawn to a method of deriving information about the function of a gene in a cell or organism, classifiable in class 435, subclass 6.
- Group IV:** Claim 65, drawn to a method of validating a candidate protein as a suitable target for drug discovery, classifiable in class 435, subclass 6.
- Group V:** Claim 66, drawn to a kit comprising reagents for activating target-specific RNA interference in a cell or organism, classifiable in class 435, subclass 6.
- Group VI:** Claims 70(a) and 70(b), drawn to a siRNA derivative comprising a crosslink or a psoralen crosslink, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.
- Group VII:** Claims 70(c) and 70(d), drawn to a siRNA derivative comprising a biotin or photocleavable biotin, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.
- Group VIII:** Claims 70(e) and 70(g), drawn to a siRNA derivative comprising a peptide or a Tat peptide, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.
- Group IX:** Claims 70(f), drawn to a siRNA derivative comprising a nanoparticle, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.

- Group X:** Claims 70(f), drawn to a siRNA derivative comprising a peptidomimetic, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.
- Group XI:** Claims 70(f), drawn to a siRNA derivative comprising a dendrimer, classifiable in class 536, subclass 24.5.
- Group XII:** Claims 72 (a)(b)(c), 73-77, drawn to a method of contacting a concentration of an siRNA derivative to inhibit expression of a target gene wherein the siRNA derivative contains a crosslink or a psoralen crosslink, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- Group XIII:** Claims 72 (d), 73-77, drawn to a method of contacting a concentration of an siRNA derivative to inhibit expression of a target gene wherein the siRNA derivative is modified at the 3' terminus, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- Group XIV:** Claims 72 (e)(f), 73-77, drawn to a method of contacting a concentration of an siRNA derivative to inhibit expression of a target gene wherein the siRNA comprises a biotin or a photocleavable biotin, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- Group XV:** Claims 72 (g), 73-77, drawn to a method of contacting a concentration of an siRNA derivative to inhibit expression of a target gene wherein the siRNA derivative comprises a nonparticle, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- Group XVI:** Claims 72 (g), 73-77, drawn to a method of contacting a concentration of an siRNA derivative to inhibit expression of a target gene wherein the siRNA derivative comprises a peptidomimetic, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.
- Group XVII:** Claims 72 (g), 73-77, drawn to a method of contacting a concentration of an siRNA derivative to inhibit expression of a target gene wherein the siRNA derivative comprises a dendrimer, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.

Group XVIII: Claims 72 (g)(h), 73-78, drawn to a method of contacting a concentration of a siRNA derivative to inhibit expression of a target gene wherein the siRNA derivative comprises a peptide or a Tat peptide, classifiable in class 514, subclass 44.

Group XIX: Claim 79, drawn to a photocleavable biotin, classifiable in class 548, subclass 303.7.

Group XX: Claims 80-83, drawn to a method of determining whether a candidate siRNA derivative is a siRNA derivative, classifiable in class 435, subclass 6.

Applicants hereby elect the Group I invention (Claims 1-39 and 67-68, drawn to a siRNA compound targeted to an mRNA sequence) under 35 U.S.C. §121 for prosecution in the present application. Applicants reserve the right to traverse the restriction between the non-elected groups in this or a separate application.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this statement. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 12-0080, under Order No. UMY-062, from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

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Respectfully submitted,

By 

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